

entry last year, Hartsfield received no new positions. There are other notable disparities. For example, Atlanta conducts 70 percent more inspections than Boston, but has only 30 percent more inspectors. The number of passengers processed annually per inspector in Atlanta is 35,782. In comparison, Miami has a higher ratio of inspectors per passenger than Atlanta, and, as a consequence, the average inspector in Miami processes 10,000 fewer passengers each year. Honolulu inspects less passengers than does Atlanta, but has twice as many inspectors. And because Hartsfield generates between \$18 million and \$19 million in user fees each year with less than \$8 million spent at Hartsfield there is concern that the Atlanta Airport is subsidizing inspections at other airports in the Nation.

In addition, the airlines serving Hartsfield are planning major expansions in their international service. Furthermore, recent census data reflects tremendous population growth in metro Atlanta over the past 10 years. This dynamic population increase, second only to that of New York, will cause ever greater demand for international travel. Given the time it takes to hire and train new inspectors, it is critical that INS address the shortfall at Hartsfield now, or we will lose our ability to attract international passengers, and the economic development of the region will suffer.

Mr. HOLLINGS. As chairman of the Commerce Committee, I am very aware of the increase in the number of flight delays at the Nation's airports. We have held numerous hearings on the increase in domestic and foreign travel and it is clear that additional INS agents are needed at the Nation's busiest airports. United States airports have experienced significant growth over the last several years and additional INS agents are needed to address the increased demand not only at the Atlanta airport but throughout the Nation's airports, including in my home State of South Carolina. I will continue to work with Senator CLELAND to ensure that the nation's business airports, Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport, receive the additional INS agents that it needs.

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I thank you for your support and attention to this matter and I look forward to working with you in the future on this issue of national importance.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained and therefore was unable to cast my vote on the motion to table the Smith-Harkin amendment No. 1538 to H.R. 2500. Had I been present, I would have voted against the motion to table.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for a period not to extend beyond 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on March 26, 2001, my friend Senator KENNEDY and I introduced S. 783, the Crime Victims Assistance Act of 2001. This legislation represents the next step in our continuing efforts to afford dignity and recognition to victims of crime. Among other things, it would enhance the rights and protections afforded to victims of Federal crime, establish innovative new programs to help promote compliance with State victim's rights laws, and vastly improve the manner in which the Crime Victims Fund is managed and preserved.

Senator KENNEDY and I first introduced the Crime Victims Assistance Act in the 105th Congress, and we re-introduced it in the 106th Congress. Like many other deserving initiatives, however, this much-needed legislation took a back seat to the debate over a proposed victims' rights constitutional amendment. I have on several occasions noted my concern that we not dissipate the progress we could be making by focusing exclusively on efforts to amend the Constitution. Regrettably, I must note again that the pace of victims legislation has slowed noticeably and many opportunities for progress have been squandered.

This year, we have a golden opportunity to make significant progress toward providing the greater voice and rights that crime victims deserve. The Crime Victims Assistance Act of 2001 enjoys broad support from victims groups across the country, including the National Center for Victims of Crime, the National Organization for Victim Assistance, and the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards. Regardless of their views on the proposed constitutional amendment, these organizations recognize that our legislation can make a difference in the lives of crime victims right now.

When I spoke about the Crime Victims Assistance Act earlier in the year, I expressed the hope that Democrats and Republicans, supporters and opponents of a constitutional amendment, would join me in advancing this bill through Congress. This should be a bipartisan effort, and in this closely divided Senate, it must be a bipartisan effort. I want to thank our eight Democratic cosponsors: Senators CORZINE, DASCHLE, FEINGOLD, HARKIN, JOHNSON,

KERRY, MURRAY, and SCHUMER. And I want once again to urge my friends on the other side of the aisle to step up to the plate and support this important victims' legislation.

When it comes to recognizing the rights of victims of crime, there is no majority, no minority, and no middle ground. As Americans, we share the common desire to help victims and provide them the greater voice and rights that they deserve. The Crime Victims Assistance Act proposes some basic, common-sense reforms to our federal crime victims laws, and would help provide the resources necessary to assist the states in giving force to their own locally-tailored statutes and constitutional provisions. What a shame if this legislation stalls again this year, because we could not work together on an issue on which we share so much common ground.

EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I think it is important to state my reasons for voting against S. 149, the Export Administration Act. I do so because I think there is too much deference to commercial interests at the expense of limiting exports which may threaten national security.

I cast my vote late in the rollcall when there were 77 votes in favor of the bill, which eventually turned out to be an 85 to 14 vote, so that I knew the bill was going to pass by overwhelming numbers.

Legislation on this subject is of great importance and is long overdue. I was tempted to vote in favor of the bill on the proposition that the best frequently is the enemy of the good. Had my vote been decisive so that it might have been a matter of having a bill which vastly improved the current situation, which is the absence of legislation, then I might have voted differently. I think the number of negative votes are important as a protest signal that this subject should be monitored closely and perhaps reviewed sooner rather than later.

For example, my concerns about the elevation of commercial interests over potential national security risks are illustrated by the foreign availability and mass market status this Act provides controlled items. The foreign availability component of the act would make the U.S. Government unable to control the sale of items that are also manufactured by other countries. Such lack of control would allow U.S. firms to sell anthrax to Saddam Hussein because of anthrax's dual-use in vaccine production. Additionally, the mass-market status in this bill would enable export of controlled items without a license if the item were mass produced for different industrial uses. An example of this mass-market status would be glass and carbon fibers that can be used in the manufacture of both golf clubs and also ballistic missiles.